

PSYCHE.

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., MARCH 1881.

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PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

CAMBRIDGE ENTOMOLOGICAL CLUB.

10 DEC. 1880. — 72nd meeting. Mr. S: H. Scudder called attention to a recent paper by Dr. F. Eugen Geinitz ("Die Blattineen aus der Dyas von Weissig") being a new and extensive description of a very complete fossil cockroach. Especial attention was called to the want of symmetry in the venation of the wings. Mr. Scudder then exhibited a drawing of a new (undescribed) cockroach recently found at Mazon Creek, Ill., which was even more complete than the one studied by Geinitz. This specimen also shows conspicuous difference in the venation of the wings of both pairs.

Mr. Scudder also called attention to another paper by Dr. Geinitz, which was, he said, the first considerable paper that had hitherto appeared, so far as he knew, on fossil insects of the Lias of Germany. . . . Dr. E: L. Mark gave a synopsis of the results already arrived at by Dr. Manson (of Amoy). Lewis (of Calcutta), and others concerning the history of the parasite of the human blood known as *Filaria sanguis-hominis*, and the probability of a certain mosquito (*Culex*)

being the intermediary host which harbors the worm in certain stages of its development. The figures accompanying the papers by Drs. Manson and Lewis were exhibited. Mr. W: Trelease referred to Mr. H: C. McCook's report printed on p. 183 of Prof. Comstock's "Report upon Cotton Insects." Mr. Trelease could not quite agree with Mr. McCook in attributing so insignificant an importance to the ants. He (Trelease) had repeatedly lost in a single night the contents of boxes holding a dozen or more larvae of *Aletia* from the invasion of the ants in question. Mr. T. is now quite sure that the moths (*Aletia*) seek the extra-floral glands on the peduncle of the sweet potato plant [*Ipomoea batatas*] for food. He did not state the fact in his report to Prof. Comstock because at that time he was not quite sure that such was the case.

HOMOLOGIES OF THE CREMASTER.

In the *Comptes Rendus* for 16 Aug. 1880. Künckel homologizes the whole cremaster of the butterfly chrysalis with the anal prolegs of the caterpillar; the cremaster is formed, he says, by the soldering of a pair of appendages, bearing at tip, each independently of the other, a series of hooks; and these two parts can be seen, in a changing chrysalis, to be hidden under the skin of the anal legs of the caterpillar. Riley however has clearly shown (*Amer. entom.*, July 1880, v. 3, p. 162-167) that the body of the cremaster of the chrysalis corresponds to the anal plate (or terminal segment) of the caterpillar, and that the anal prolegs of the latter are transformed to what he terms the sustentors, ridges on the under surface of the cremaster which terminate anteriorly in little knobs, and play such an important part in the pupation of nymphalidous butterflies. Künckel has evidently been led astray in part by the mere resemblance between the hooks of the pupal cremaster and those of the larval prolegs; and what becomes of the anal plate of the caterpillar he fails to tell us. Both these authors have written independently. S: H. S.